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REPORT.

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Exhibition of color photographs of archeological interest,  
pertaining to Tripolitania, North Africa.

~~CONSULAR~~ BUREAU

There has recently been assembled at Tripoli,

MAY 12 1914

a collection of photographs in color of more than ordinary  
interest and worthy of attention by archeologists as well  
as devotees of the camera. This collection consists of  
more than 260 plates taken and developed by Lieutenant-Col-  
onel Luigi Pellerano of the Italian army. This officer is  
an expert in color photography as well as an authority on  
its processes, being the author of a manual entitled "L'Auto-  
cromista e la Pratica Elementare della Fotografia a Colori",  
published by Ulrico Hoepli, Milan, Italy.

The pictures cover a wide range of views and ob-  
jects in the province of Tripolitania: scenes in the oases  
showing green palms and crops, white houses and wells, the  
blue of the sky and blossoms of the gardens; flaming African  
sunsets, caught in a manner to excite the envy and despair  
of the man with palette and brush. Particularly pictures-  
que were the Bedouin women; the gay tints of their dresses,  
the glint of metallic ornaments, the flash of white teeth,  
the ebon face, were present to the life. No less interest-  
ing were the men draped in the graceful folds of white  
baracans, the crimson tarbush or fez and glimpses of rich  
waistcoats showing in gay relief. Very striking were por-  
traits of the Roman Catholic Bishop, the chief Rabbi and  
the Priest of the Greek Church; flesh tints, hair and beards  
and the texture and color of robes being excellent. Many

scenes

scenes depicting life in the country and in the city of Tripoli and there are two frames of 24 photographs each, showing Arab houses and mosques in which the soft colors of the old Moorish tiles hold the attention.

But of greatest interest were the reproductions of the archeological treasures of Tripolitania; nearly a hundred, of objects at Tripoli, Leptis Magna, Sliten, Ain Zara and Sabrata. A mosaic floor at Sliten with the four seasons, represented by female heads decorated with appropriate fruits, flowers and foliage, showed wonderful detail of coloring and execution while the pristine beauty of the work and its good state of preservation are clearly evident.

Another mosaic floor at Sliten has medallions enclosing groups of fish, animals flowers, fruits and the like, as well as representations of gladiatorial games and hunting scenes. The state of preservation is also high, the coloring pleasing and the work evidently of merit. Details of the designs have been remarkably brought out, such minutiae as the antennae of a lobster being easily discernible. Another beautiful picture was of a graceful glass pot, deep green with iridescent surface, from a Roman tomb recently discovered near the West fortress at Tripoli, and one of artistic beauty revealed a carpet of pale mauve and yellow blossoms growing among the ruins at Leptis Magna.

A description of all the plates worthy of particular mention, would require too much space, but for the information of those interested in archeology, the enclosed list of objects from the ancient Roman occupation, will give an idea of the treasures being unearthed here. Fortunately they are all reserved to the Government thus insuring



sureing their preservation and museums have been established at Tripoli and Homs for the reception of statues, tomb furniture and other objects not attached to the soil.

These photographs have been sent to Genoa where they will be exhibited in the ethnographical division of the "Esposizione Coloniale" being held there this Summer, and American visitors interested in either archeology, photography, travel or things beautiful, would employ their time advantageously by seeing them.

It is claimed that this <sup>is</sup> <sub>^</sub> the first time that the attractions of a country have been displayed in color photography at a Government exhibition, which lends added interest to this display.

Lumiere plates were used for the work throughout. I am indebted to Lieutenant-Colonel Pellegrano for the lists and also for a private view of many of the photographs.

*W. Rodrick Dorey*  
American Consul.

Tripoli, Libya, North Africa,

April 25, 1914.

Enclosure:

List of color photographs of archeological interest.

ANTIQUITIES AT TRIPOLI.

Arch of Marcus Aurelius. Nos. I to 9.

- I-East face, before excavation
- 2-East face after excavation
- 3-North and east faces , after excavation
- 4-Interior, during excavation
- 5-Ground strata filling arch
- 6-Sculpture detail-Athena in sphinx drawn car
- 7-Sculpture detail-Apollo in griffin drawn car
- 8-Interior of octangular cupola
- 9-Sewers under arch
- 10-North-west fortress, where many Roman tombs discovered
- 11-Group of these tombs
- 12-Entrance to a tomb
- 13-Tomb No. 2
- 14-Tomb No. 12
- 15-Tomb No. 24
- 16-Interior of tomb No. 24

In Museum at Tripoli.

- 17-Amphorae from tomb No. 7
- 18-Furniture from tomb No. 8
- 19-Furniture from tomb No. 9
- 20-Furniture from tomb No. 13
- 21-Fictile furniture from tomb No. 14
- 22-Glass articles from tomb No. 14
- 23-Green glass pot from tomb No. 14
- 24-Furniture from tomb No. 24
- 25-White marble fountain-sculptured with serpents



List of Color Photographs-Continued.

26-Dionysius and a satyr-Statue

27-Statue of Victory

28-Statue of Rome

29-Statue of Venus

30-Sculptured capital of a pillar

RUINS OF LEPTIS MAGNA.

31-Fortified castle at entrance to inner harbor

32-Quay and moorings

33-Left quay

34-Harbor steps

35-View of inner harbor

36-Arch in palace of Septimus Severus

37- Halls in palace of Septimus Severus

38-Apsis hall, palace of Septimus Severus

39-Exterior hall, palace of Septimus Severus

40-Outhouse to palace of Septimus Severus

41-Statue near palace of Septimus Severus

42-Ruins near Palace of Septimus Severus

43-Baths

44-Another view of baths

45-Detail of baths

46-Four faced arch

47-The circus

48-Ruins near the circus

49-Place of ancient theater

50-Water castle and aqueduct

51-Aqueduct

52- Ruins along river bed

53-Ruins on right bank of river, with flowers

54-Ruins near sea

List of Color Photographs-Continued.

- 55-Standing columns near sea
- 56-Columns of Cipolin marble
- 57-Articles found in fortress of Septimus Severus
- 58-A column

ANTIQUITIES AT SLITEN.

- 59-Ruins of Dar Buk Ammera (Sliten)
- 60-Corridor in same
- 61-Mosaic of hall at West end of building
- 62-Mosaic of the Seasons
- 63-Detail of same-Spring
- 64-Detail of same-Summer
- 65-Detail of same-Autumn
- 66-Detail of same-Winter
- 67-Mosaic of hall-next to the Seasons
- 68-Mosaic of apartment adjoining the above
- 69-Mosaic with hunting scenes and gladiatorial games
- 70-Section of same
- 71-A mosaic detail

ANTIQUITIES AT AIN ZARA.

- 72-Roman cemetery
- 73-Tomb in same
- 74-   "   "   "
- 75-   "   "   "
- 76-   "   "   "
- 77-   "   "   "
- 78-   "   "   "
- 79-Mosaic floor
- 80-Detail of same



List of color photographs-Concluded.

81-Detail of same

82- " " "

83- " " "

MISCELLANEOUS.

84-Casr Sciaddad-Castle near Homs

85-Statue-Diana of Ephesus-Homs Museum

86-Statue-Venus-Homs Museum

87-Casr Doga ~~xx Kaxxxx~~ near Tarhuna

88-Amphitheater at Sabrata

89-Dyke of River Daun

90-Dyke of River Kaam

91-Spanish walls at Tripoli.

NOTE: Enclosure with report of American Consul at Tripoli, North Africa dated April 25, 1914.

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